# Registering a Domestic Non- Profit Corporation

A step-by-step guide to using the Secretary of State's Online Business Filing System

BUSINESS SERVICES

MISSOURI
SECRETARY
OF STATE

This guide is designed to help individuals navigate the Missouri Secretary of State's online business filing system to file a domestic non-profit corporation. Please view our <u>FAQ page</u> explaining the difference between domestic and foreign entities.

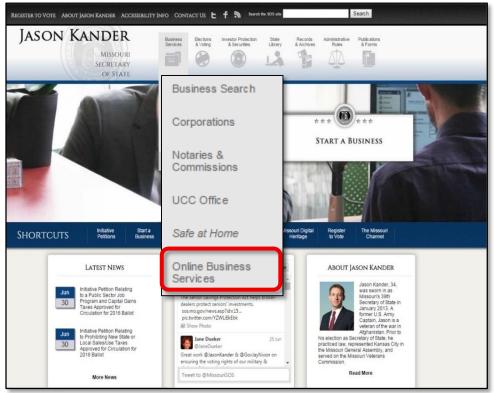
Please consult an attorney and accountant before filing with our office. Choosing the proper business entity for you and your business is an extremely important decision that must be tailored to every person's unique needs and circumstances. This guide does not provide tax or legal advice. It is only designed to navigate the Missouri Secretary of State's online filing system.

Please give us a call at 1-866-223-6535 or email us at <a href="mailto:corporations@sos.mo.gov">corporations@sos.mo.gov</a> if you have any questions about the registration process.

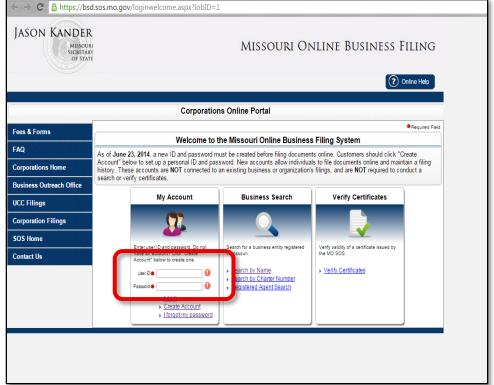
Links to additional business resources are listed on the final page.



Step 1
Go to www.sos.mo.gov.



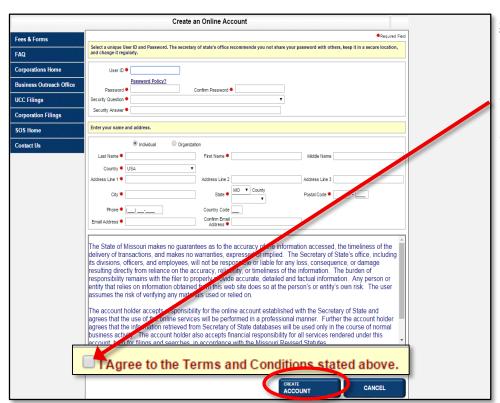
At the top, under "Business Services," mouse over and select the last option in the drop down menu titled, "Online Business Services".



# Step 3

Log into the online system. Each user must create an individual account. These accounts are unique and are separate from information associated with a business entity. If you already have an account and know your username and password, type them into the appropriate fields and click "Login."

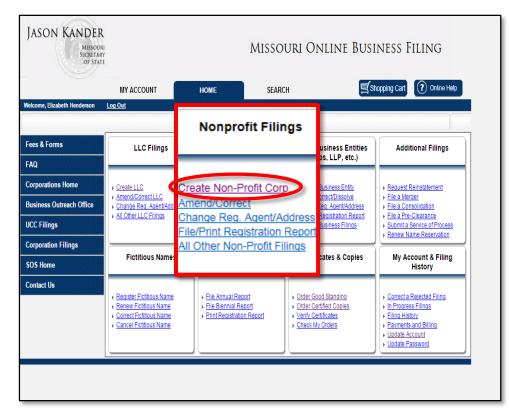
- If you do not remember your password, select "I forgot my password" and a temporary password will be emailed to you.
- If you do not remember your username, you will need to call our office for assistance at 1-866-223-6535 or create a new account.
- If you do not have an account, click
   "Create Account" to get started.



# Step 3 (cont.)

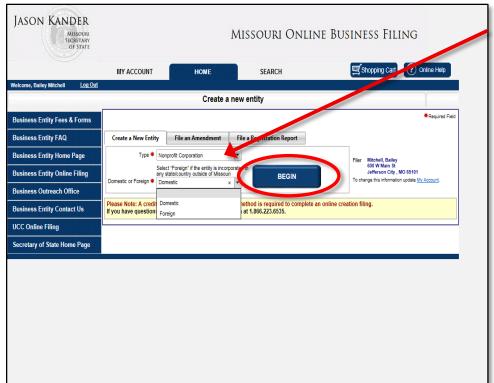
Enter all the appropriate information into the boxes provided.

Check the box stating "I agree to the Terms and Conditions stated above" and click "Create Account".



# Step 4

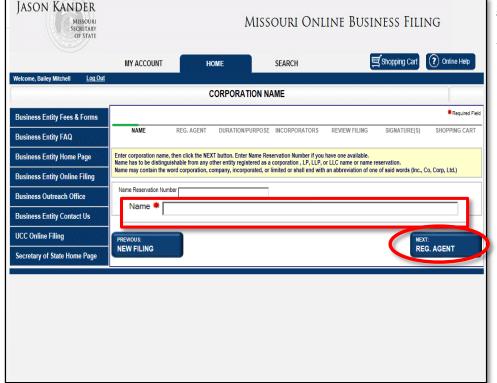
After you have successfully logged in, you will be directed to the filing "Home" tab. Locate the box titled "Nonprofit Filings" box and click the first option: "Create Non- Profit Corp.".



From the "Create a new entity" tab, ensure "Nonprofit Corporation" is selected in the "Type" field.

From the drop down menu, select "Domestic". Please view our <u>FAQ</u> <u>page</u> explaining the difference between domestic and foreign entities.

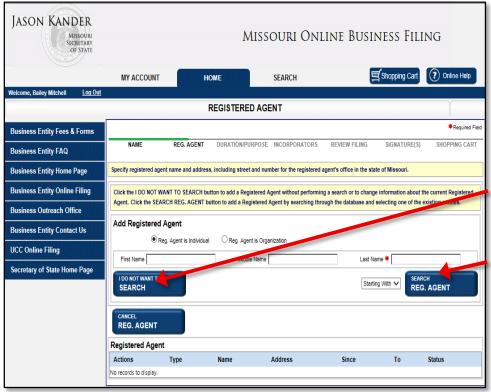
Click "BEGIN".



#### Step 6

Next, you will create a legal name for your company.

- Read the instructions in yellow at the top and include "corporation," "company," "incorporated," or "limited" or an abbreviation of one of those words: Inc. Co. Corp. Ltd.
- Above the "Name" field there is a field titled "Name Reservation Number". If you have previously filed for a name reservation number, you may type it here.
- Once you've chosen your business name, click "REG. AGENT".



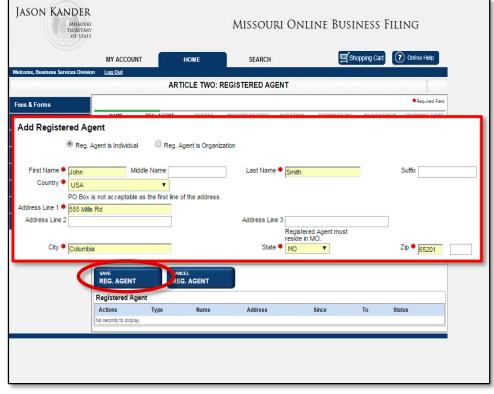
Specify a registered agent.

A registered agent is an individual/organization who receives all notifications of due process for the company.

Read more about registered agents.

- Click "I DO NOT WANT TO SEARCH" to add a Registered Agent without searching.
- Click "SEARCH REG. AGENT" to search the database and selecting a registered agent.

**NOTE:** A registered agent must consent to being the registered agent for your business.



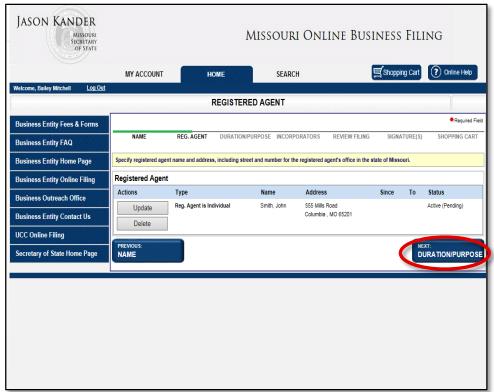
#### Step 8

Clicking "I DO NOT WANT TO SEARCH" will force you to enter the registered agent's information.

A physical address is <u>required</u>. A PO Box may only be used if a physical address is also provided on line 1.

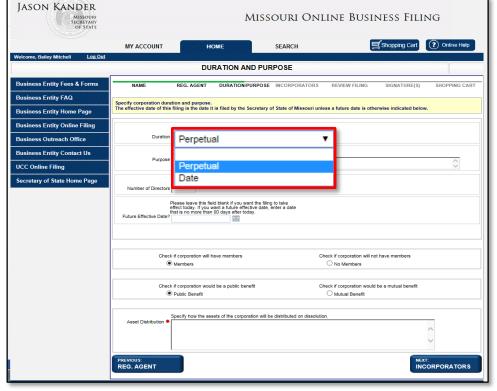
The use of the physical address of a UPS Store or similar mailing/receiving/forwarding service for the registered agent's address is prohibited.

Enter the appropriate information for your registered agent. When finished, click "SAVE REG. AGENT".



Once saved, you can review and edit the Registered Agent information. From here, you may click "Update" to change the information, or click "Delete" to search for or reenter the Registered Agent information.

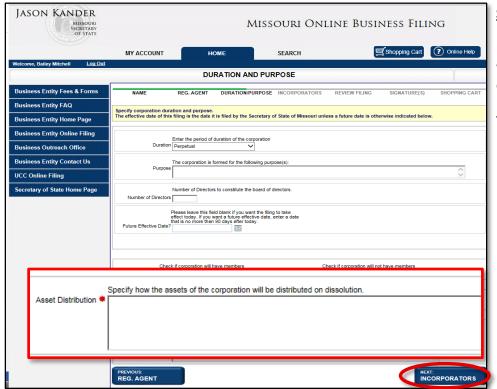
Click "DURATION/PURPOSE" to continue.



#### Step 10

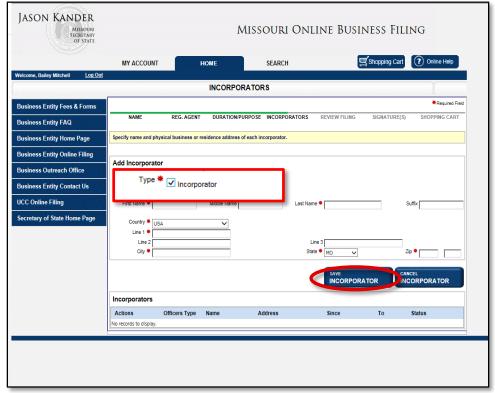
From the "Duration" dropdown menu, choose the duration of the business. Duration indicates how long the business will operate until it dissolves. The effective date of the filing will be the date it is filed by the Secretary of State of Missouri unless a future date is selected.

- Perpetual: the business will continue to exist until it is actively dissolved.
- Date: the business will dissolve upon a specified date. If you choose this option, you will be prompted to choose a date from a calendar.



In the Asset Distribution box explain how the assets of the corporation will be distributed on the dissolution or closing of the corporation.

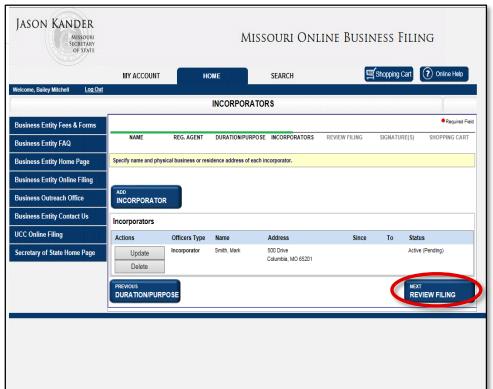
To continue to the next step, click "INCORPORATORS".



#### Step 12

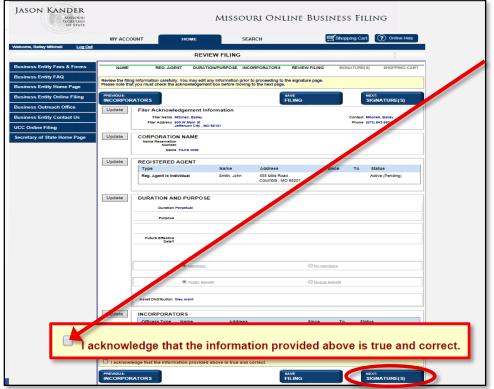
Next to "Type" check the box before "Incorporator".

Complete all appropriate fields and click "SAVE INCORPORATOR" to continue.



Review the incorporator's information for accuracy. To make changes, click "Update". To erase the incorporator and start over, click "Delete".

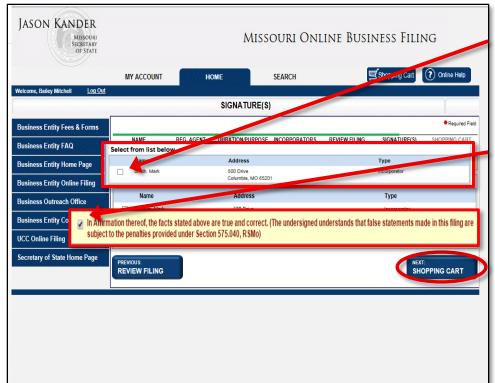
Click "REVIEW FILING" to continue.



# Step 14

You will see an overview of your non-profit corporation. Review all information for accuracy before checking the box stating "I acknowledge that the information provided above is true and correct."

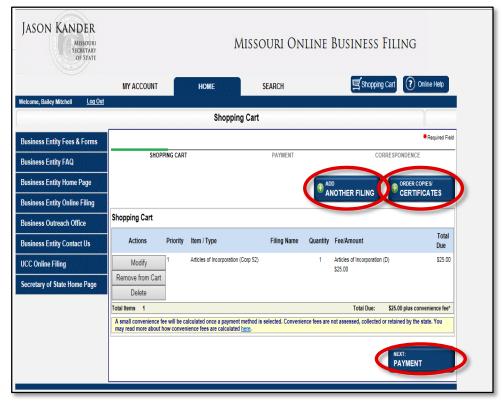
- You may click "SAVE FILING" to save your progress and continue later.
- Or, you may move onto the next step by clicking "SIGNATURE(S)".



An authorized person or organization must provide an electronic signature. To do so, select in box next to the name of the incorporator.

Also, select the box that says, "In Affirmation thereof, the facts stated about are true and correct".

After selecting the yellow box, click "SHOPPING CART" to continue.



#### Step 16

In your shopping cart you should see the Articles of Incorporation.

If you need to add another filing or order copies/certificates, you may click the boxes at the top.

If you are ready to move onto the payment step click "PAYMENT".



Select a payment method from the drop down menu.

- The options are Credit Card or Electronic Check.
- If you'd like to pay through ACH, please contact our office at:

1-866-223-6535 or

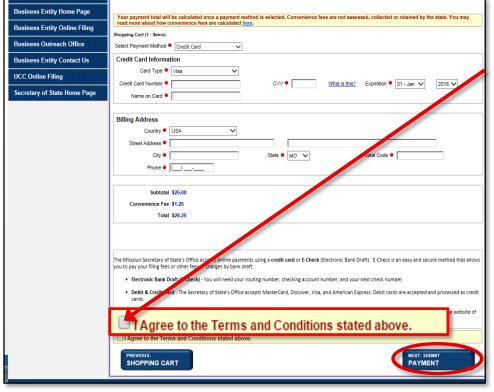
corporations@sos.mo.gov.

The convenience fees for this transaction are:

• Credit Card: \$1.25

**NOTE:** All credit card transactions up to \$50 are charged a flat fee of \$1.25.

• Electronic Check: \$0.50

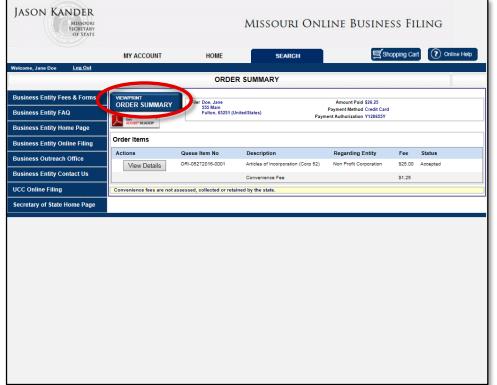


#### Step 18

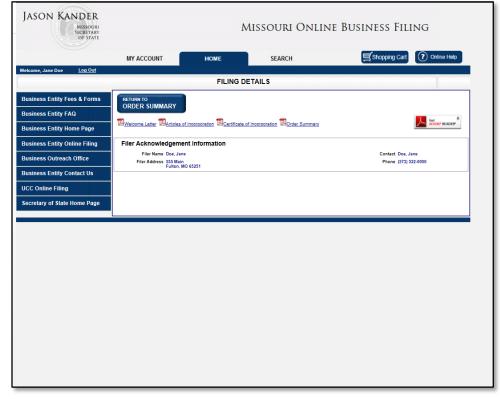
Complete the payment information.

Click "I Agree to the terms and conditions stated above".

Click "SUBMIT PAYMENT" to continue.

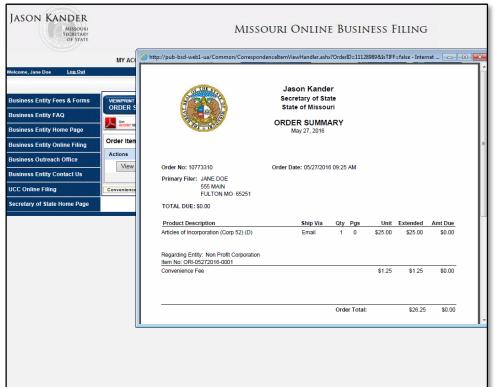


After you submit your payment, click "VIEW DETAILS" to view a printable pdf of your order summary.



# Step 20(a)

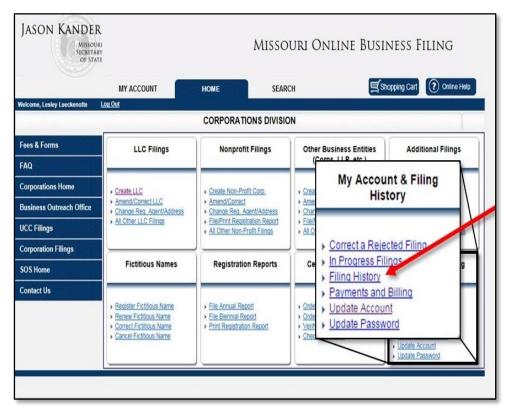
After selecting "View Details" you will see PDF links near the top of the screen. Click any of the links to view the PDF.



#### Step 20(b)

After clicking on one of the files, it will be visible in the browser.

If you mouse over the pdf, a menu will appear with a print icon and a save icon. This will look different depending on what browser you are using.



#### Step 21

If in the future if you need to print or view filed documents, you may do so by going to the "My Account & Filing History" box from the home page and clicking "Filing History".

# **Additional Reporting Requirements**

What are the other reporting requirements for Non-profits?

Non-profit corporations are required to immediately file if any changes occur to their articles of incorporation, management structure and/or their registered agent or the agent's office address. (RsMO Chapter 355)

Do Non-profits have to file Annual Registration Reports?

After incorporating, the first annual report is not due until the August of the following year. All non-profit annual reports are due at the end of August each year. These reports may be submitted online or via email, mail, or fax. There is a \$5.00 discount for submitting the report online. Submit on time to avoid late fees and possible Administrative Dissolution or Revocation.

Please give us a call at 1-866-223-6535 or email us at corporations@sos.mo.gov if you have any questions about the registration process.

# **Resources for Entrepreneurs and Business Owners**

Below are just a few links to the resources available to you when starting and growing a business in Missouri. Take some time to review these sites and take advantage of the many opportunities available to you.



# www.ded.mo.gov

The Missouri Department of Economic Development has numerous resources for new and existing businesses. You can find a comprehensive list of all state business assistance programs and incentives at https://ded.mo.gov/businesses/BusinessAssistance.aspx



#### www.business.mo.gov

The Missouri Business Portal offers many resources to help businesses of all sizes and in all industries start, grow and manage their businesses. You can find educational resources about entrepreneurship to listings of hundreds of available shovel-ready sites and development properties.



# www.mosourcelink.com

Focused on helping businesses and nonprofits in the startup and growth phases of their life cycle, MOSourceLink brings together resources from across the state. You can find information about how to evaluate your business idea: http://www.mosourcelink.com/startup/evaluate-your-idea and help finding free business counselors in your area using TheResourceNavigator: http://www.mosourcelink.com/startup/meet-with-a-counselor, http://www.mosourcelink.com/resources/find-a-resource